Inquiry into allegation of corruption in Haj Committee

†536. SHRI JHUMUK LAL BHEND1A: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for making repeated allegation of corruption in Haj Committee and reasons for not conducting an inquiry into the loopholes;

(b) whether Government are taking any action on the demand of Central Haj Committee to conduct an inquiry by CBI into mattters relating to Haj;

(c) whether there is any proposal to provide additional facilities alongwith increasing the number of centres; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH):(a) and (b) Government is aware of unsubstantiated allegations of corruption in the working of the Central Haj Committee. Haj-2001 was completed successfully. The arrangements were appreciated by the Saudi authorities, as well as Goodwill Delegation sent by Government of India during the Haj. There is, therefore, no proposal for any enquiry.

(c) and (d) The provision of additional facilities and embarkation points are under constant review and are implemented subject to their feasibility.

Extradition Treaty between India and Germany

537. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Germany have signed an extradition treaty; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH): (a) and (b) An Extradition Treaty between India and Germany was signed at Berlin on 27th June, 2001. The salient features of the Treaty are as under:

(i) Any person who is accused of or convicted for an extraditable offence in the Requesting State and found in the Requested State may be extradited to the Requesting State.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.